

AN INTERSECTIONAL HYBRID IN *CEANOOTHUS*.—Nobs (Publ. Carnegie Inst. Wash. 623. 1963) attempted a number of intersectional crosses in *Ceanothus*. Most of these failed completely, no hybrid seeds being formed. In rare instances a few hybrids were obtained but these were weak and stunted and died in early stages. Nobs cited only six naturally occurring intersectional hybrids in *Ceanothus*, none of which involved the putative parental pair reported here.

In 1970, Dr. Nancy Vivrette discovered an apparent hybrid between *Ceanothus* (sect. *Ceanothus*) *spinosus* Nutt. and *C.* (sect. *Cerastes*) *crassifolius* Torr.: California, Santa Barbara County, Santa Ynez Mountains, 0.16 km S of East Camino Cielo on Painted Cave Road. Voucher specimens of the hybrid and its putative parents are placed in UCSB. The hybrid grows between plants of the putative parents and is in such close proximity to the putative parents that their branches overlap. Nearby plants of both parental species are fully mature and vigorous, reaching heights of ca 3.5 m. The hybrid is also vigorous and stands ca 2 m. The hybrid is similar in some morphological characters to the putative parents and is intermediate in others (Table 1).

TABLE 1. SALIENT MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERS OF *CEANOOTHUS SPINOSUS*, *C. CRASSIFOLIUS*, AND THEIR HYBRID.

character	<i>C. spinosus</i>	hybrid	<i>C. crassifolius</i>
Leaf shape	elliptical	elliptical to ovate	spatulate, obovate
Leaf texture	flexible	flexible	firm
Leaf dentation	none	dentate	pungently dentate
Leaf arrangement	alternate	alternate and opposite	opposite
Stipule texture	thin	thin	corky
Stem color	green	green and gray	gray
Branching habit	flexible	smallest branchlets flexible; larger branchlets rigid	rigid
Stomatal crypts	absent	present	present
Stomatal crypt pubescence	—————	minutely puberulent	tomentose
Position of inflorescence	lateral simple panicles	raceme of umbels	lateral umbels
Flower color	blue	light blue	white

The putative parents flower annually, set large numbers of seeds, and have 90 percent or higher pollen stainabilities (lactophenol-aniline blue). The hybrid has been observed for two years; very few inflorescences have been produced during that time. No seeds have been found on the hybrid; pollen stainability is 8.3 percent.—LAURIANNE L. HANNAN, 256 Wilson Street, Albany, California 94710.